REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 9-14 are pending in this Application. By this amendment, Applicants amend claim 9.

Applicants' counsel greatly appreciates the courtesies extended by the Examiner in the personal interview of April 27, 2004.

Claims 9-11 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Person et al. (U.S. 5,321,573). Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Person et al. in view of Nagakubo et al. (U.S. 5,966,938). Claims 15-17 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Person et al. Claims 18 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Person et al. in view of Nagakubo et al. (U.S.5,966,938). Applicants have canceled claims 15-20. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 9-14.

Claim 9 recites:

> "A manufacturing method of a chip-type composite electronic component comprising the steps of:
> forming an inductor characteristic sheet by laminating a ceramic layer having an internal coil conductor;
> **forming a thermistor characteristic sheet having a predetermined resistance-temperature characteristic by laminating a plurality of ceramic layers, each of at least two adjacent ceramic layers of the plurality of ceramic layers includes an internal electrode, wherein the internal electrode of one of the at least two adjacent ceramic layers extends from a central portion to a first edge of the ceramic layer, and the internal electrode of the other of the at least two adjacent ceramic layers extends from a central portion to a second edge of the ceramic layer that is opposite to the first edge;;**
> forming a compound multilayer body by adhering the inductor characteristic sheet and the thermistor characteristic sheet by pressure with a diffusion-prevention layer sandwiched therebetween;
> baking a compound multilayer body;
> forming external electrodes on an end surface of a compound multilayer body in which at least on nd part of an internal coil conductor and at l ast on nd part of an internal electrode are exposed." (emphasis

added)

In accordance with the personal interview, Applicants have amended claim 9 to more specifically recite the features of the thermistor characteristic sheet. Particularly, Applicants have amended claim 9 to recite the step of "forming a thermistor characteristic sheet having a predetermined resistance-temperature characteristic by laminating a plurality of ceramic layers, each of at least two adjacent ceramic layers of the plurality of ceramic layers includes an internal electrode, wherein the internal electrode of one of the at least two adjacent ceramic layers extends from a central portion to a first edge of the ceramic layer, and the internal electrode of the other of the at least two adjacent ceramic layers extends from a central portion to a second edge of the ceramic layer that is opposite to the first edge."

As acknowledged by the Examiner, Person et al. fails to teach or suggest <u>any</u> specific features of a thermistor. And, in fact, the specification of Person et al. is completely silent with respect to a thermistor. Thus, Person et al. clearly fails to teach or suggest the features of "forming a thermistor characteristic sheet having a predetermined resistance-temperature characteristic by laminating a plurality of ceramic layers, each of at least two adjacent ceramic layers of the plurality of ceramic layers includes an internal electrode, wherein the internal electrode of one of the at least two adjacent ceramic layers extends from a central portion to a first edge of the ceramic layer, and the internal electrode of the other of the at least two adjacent ceramic layers extends from a central portion to a second edge of the ceramic layer that is opposite to the first edge" as recited in Applicants' claim 9.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Person et al.

The Examiner has relied upon Nagakubo et al. to allegedly cure various deficiencies in Person et al. However, Nagakubo et al. fails to teach or suggest the feature of "f forming a thermistor characteristic sh et having a pr determined

resistance-temperature characteristic by laminating a plurality of ceramic layers, each of at least two adjacent ceramic layers of the plurality of ceramic layers includes an internal electrode, wherein the internal electrode of one of the at least two adjacent ceramic layers extends from a central portion to a first edge of the ceramic layer, and the internal electrode of the other of the at least two adjacent ceramic layers extends from a central portion to a second edge of the ceramic layer that is opposite to the first edge" in combination with the other method steps and features recited in Applicants' claim 9.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Person et al. and Nagakubo et al., applied alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the unique combination and arrangement of elements recited in claim 9 of the present application. Claims 10-14 depend upon claim 9 and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 9 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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